

What the producer needs to do when Managed Haying or Grazing is completed

- CRP participants who hayed or grazed CRP acres or rented or leased haying or grazing privileges need to report the number of acres actually hayed or grazed by signing and dating a DR-25 form,
- Re-establish the CRP cover at their own expense if the cover failed as a result of managed haying or grazing,
- Remove all hay by October 13th,
- Remove all livestock when the calculated AUM's are utilized, but no later than November 12th for summer/fall grazing.

Eligible Acreage

Acreage eligible for managed haying or grazing includes acreage with the following practices:

CP1-Introduced grasses and legumes

CP2-Permanent native grasses

CP4B-Permanent wildlife habitat (corridors)

CP4D-Permanent wildlife habitat

CP10-Vegetative Cover - Grass - Already established

CP18B-Establishment of permanent vegetation to reduce salinity

CP18C-Establishment of permanent salt tolerant vegetative cover

Note: Managed haying or grazing may not be performed within 100 feet of a stream or other permanent waterbody.

Payment Reduction

- The annual rental payment shall be reduced by the number of acres actually hayed or grazed, times the CRP per acre annual rental payment, times 25 percent.



Managed Haying and Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Acres (*New Provisions*)



Program Revisions

CRP participants that have managed haying and grazing provisions added to the Conservation Plan can request the FSA County Committee for approval to hay or graze CRP acreage.

Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season

CRP copntracts that had the managed haying and grazing provisions approved in the Conservation Plan on or after September 26th, 2006 will **not** be allowed to perform managed haying and grazing during the primary nesting and broodrearing season of May 15th - August 1.

FSA is planning on looking at an environmental review within the next two years. The frequency could be changed in that timeframe.

Signup

CRP participants must request authorization to perform manged haying or grazing and receive written approval prior to starting the activity. Haying or grazing of CRP acreage prior to receiving written approval could result in the assessment of a pyament reduction that will be reduced from the next annual rental payment or termination of the affected acres.

Spring and Summer/Fall Grazing Period

The spring grazing period is February 15 through May 14 and summer/fall grazing period is August 2 through November 12, 2007.

Haying Period

The haying period was established as August 2nd to October 13th.

Enrollment Criteria

- Managed haying is allowed **once every 10 years** on the same acreage. Managed haying shall be permitted on no more than 50 percent of each field or contiguous field once in 5 years. The other 50 percent of the field cannot be hayed for 5 years.
- Managed grazing is allowed **once every 5 years** on the same acreage at no more than 75 percent of the determined stocking rate

Requirements

- Ensure the long-term viability of the stand, while protecting and enhancing the soil, water, wildlife and other natural resources of the CRP acreage,
- Producer may not hay and graze the same acreage in the same year,
- Haying is limited to 1 cutting per season,
- All managed haying and grazing must be performed according to the conservation plan,
- FSA will conduct compliance reviews.

What the producer needs to do to apply for Managed Haying and Grazing

- Obtain a modified conservation plan to the CRP contract from FSA to include managed haying or grazing provisions, if not already done,
- Identify the acreage to be hayed or grazed on an aerial photograph,
- Record the acreage to be hayed or grazed on DF-21 form,
- Have all participants sign the "Terms and Conditions for Managed Haying and Grazing" agreement before managed haying or grazing begins,
- Receive notification of approval from the FSA county committee, or it's designee, in writing before managed haying or grazing can begin,
- Livestock producers, who rent or lease acreage from the CRP participant, shall sign a statement agreeing not to sublease the CRP acreage, receive notification of approval from the FSA county committee, and provide a copy of the notification to the CRP participant.

*For more information on Managed Haying and Grazing on CRP:
Contact your local USDA Service Center or log on to the
Montana FSA website at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>*